

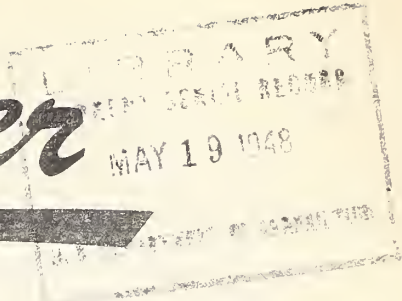
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Newsletter



GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

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IN MEMORIAM

DR. ALBERT FRED WOODS

On April 12, 1948, Dr. Albert Fred Woods, Graduate School Director Emeritus, passed away, after an illness of five months. His death brought to a close an illustrious career in science, education and administration.

Dr. Woods served as Director of the Graduate School from 1926 to 1941 and Director Emeritus and Educational Advisor from 1941 to his retirement on December 31, 1946. During his administration, the Graduate School developed a sound curriculum, gathered an able faculty and established a scholarly standard of work. He was deeply interested in young men and women and looked upon the Graduate School as providing them with an opportunity for professional development and a means to secure work towards academic degrees.

In 1891 Dr. Woods began his educational career as a teacher of botany at the University of Nebraska. He came to the Department of Agriculture in 1895 as a plant pathologist and did pioneer work in the nature of virus diseases. From 1910 to 1917, he was Dean of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota; from 1917 to 1926 he was President of the University of Maryland. Returning to the Department of Agriculture, he served as Director of Scientific Work from 1926 to 1934, and as Director of the Graduate School from 1926 to 1941. From 1934 to his retirement from USDA in 1938, he served as principal pathologist in the Bureau of Plant Industry.

Dr. Woods has left his mark upon each institution he served. The imprint of his distinguished work as a scientist, educator, and administrator will endure through years to come.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Bertha G. Woods, who resides at 4001 Quintana Street, Hyattsville, Maryland, and two sons, Dr. Mark W. Woods, cytologist with the National Cancer Institute, and Winton D. Woods of Centerville, Ohio.

MARYLAND AND GS PLAN JOINT PROGRAMS

To provide broader educational opportunities for those served by each institution, University of Maryland and GS have agreed to develop cooperative arrangements under which certain resources of each institution are made available on an integrated basis to students of both institutions.

The cooperative arrangements are to include: 1. integration of course offerings in certain fields so as to provide programs leading to undergraduate and advanced degrees; 2. cooperative development of special new programs of studies leading to degrees in new fields of undergraduate and graduate concentration; 3. continuance and increase in arrangements under which research work in USDA may be used for degree requirements at Maryland. Under these arrangements, work taken at GS by students of GS or Maryland may be applied as partial residence credit towards undergraduate or advanced degrees at Maryland.

General provisions for cooperation are embodied in a Memorandum of Understanding signed in early April by President Byrd of Maryland and Director Rohrbaugh, GS. Representatives of each institution are, in various subject matter fields, developing plans for implementing the agreement in these fields.

SUMMARY OF STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Graduate School students were given a questionnaire designed to secure student appraisal of and suggestions on courses, course description and course program. The questionnaire was optional, but 39 percent returned the forms.

Representative of the results are:

1. 85% received training expected (based on course description); 9% only in part; 4% did not read description.
2. 88% indicated course material was well organized.
3. 96% said time spent in course worth while.
4. 7% desired more lectures; 24% more class participation; 68% felt division between lectures and discussions about right.
5. 81% would recommend course to others; 17% would recommend course with reservations.
6. 91% indicated general attitude of class favorable; 9% unfavorable.
7. 2% said material covered was too simple; and only 1% too difficult.

Complete summary of the questionnaires is available for review in the GS office. Instructors received replies from their classes.

INTERNSHIP COOPERATION WITH LAND-GRANT INSTITUTIONS

Establishment of a program of internship cooperation between USDA and land-grant colleges and universities was announced in a memorandum (1213) issued by Secretary Anderson on April 12, 1948.

The program will afford opportunities to postgraduate and postdoctorate personnel from the institutions for gaining research and other experience under the direction of the Department's scientific staff in Washington, Beltsville and elsewhere.

On the recommendation of the GS General Administration Board, which had assigned a subcommittee to review the proposal, Secretary Anderson, a year ago, suggested exploration of the idea to the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities. A joint committee from the Association and GS subsequently worked out the plan; later it was approved by the Association and the GS Board. With Rhett Y. Winters (ARA) as chairman, a committee of representatives from FCA, EXT., FS, PERS., SCS, PMA and BAE will supervise the program.

Though the program will not get underway formally until August, when data on available opportunities for the fiscal year 1949 will go to land-grant institutions, special individual assignments may be made. One such began in January in PMA's Grain Branch when D.F. Beard, Extension Agronomist at Ohio State, began a 4-month seed certification study. Dr. Beard's work, under PMA's E. O. Pollock and with the collaboration of Ohio State's Marketing Professor Henning, will be certified to meet leave of absence requirements for professional improvement.

BAE SPECIALISTS LEARN AGRICULTURAL ESTIMATING PROCEDURES

Thirty-two BAE specialists in agricultural estimates have just completed a GS course in Agricultural Estimating Procedures taught by Walter A. Hendricks. The course was designed to provide BAE specialists with information on techniques in planning, making and evaluating mail and enumerative surveys. Materials developed in the course went regularly to State Statisticians' Offices where they served as the basis for discussion groups and in-service training.

GS COURSE GIVEN IN REA

Thirty top administrative and engineering personnel of REA have just completed the GS course in Effective Meetings under the leadership of Douglas Ensminger (BAE). Offered at the request of REA Administrator Wickard, the course was not given as a regular GS credit course. The REA group plans to meet monthly with Dr. Ensminger to assess usefulness of principles learned in daily operations.

REPORTS FROM GS DEPARTMENTS

LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

Chairman Schlup (EXT.) reports that comments and suggestions from Information Directors of major Government agencies have been of assistance in planning Languages and Literature's presentation methods program. One course, Advanced Practices in Editing, has been added; other courses have been modified to reflect needs of the Federal Service.

Albert Maverick is the latest USDA employee certified to take intensive language training through FAR and GS cooperation at State's Foreign Service Institute. Mr. Maverick is taking Spanish in anticipation of a transfer to USDA's hoof and mouth work in Mexico.

OFFICE TECHNIQUES

The curricular program for 1948-49 was discussed at an April 16 meeting of the departmental committee. Student registration, student questionnaire survey, and faculty opinion indicate that the program is well tailored to student needs. Only minor changes are proposed for the coming year.

The committee plans to convene again, several weeks prior to the opening of the fall term, to plan a joint meeting with departmental faculty.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Beginning late January, a series of meetings with faculty groups have been scheduled by Chairman Deming (Budget Bureau) to discuss program content. Elementary statistics instructors met January 27, using the NRC Wilkes reports, the preliminary Hotelling report, and discussions at the recent New York meetings as points of departure. Instructors in advanced statistics met on February 10.

A 3-day lecture series of interest to statisticians and research workers will be given in May by L. H. C. Tippet of the British Cotton Industrial Research Association, Manchester, England. Topics will be:

1. Inference from Experimental Data by Statistics
2. Some Industrial Applications of the Analysis of Variance
3. The Statistical Study of Industrial Efficiency with Special Reference to the British Cotton Industry

Sponsored by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, the lectures will be held on May 19, 20, and 21, at 4:00 p.m. Room 474, Executive Office Building (17th and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.). The fee for the series is \$3.00.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Reports indicate that recommendations of the Persons (General Administration) Committee are approaching final form. The committee, after a year's study, will prepare a reorganized curriculum. Its findings will receive thorough study by committees and faculty.

Chairman Finn (PMA) has appointed a committee to plan a luncheon meeting of all committee and faculty members. On it are Messrs. Stahl (FSA) Chairman, Rowe (FCIC), Thurston (Sec.) and Webster (Inf.).

Assistant Secretary Brannon and Assistant to the Secretary Minor (Dept. Committee) chaired important-to-USDA sessions at the March annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration. The first dealt with adequacy of machinery for Government-wide managerial control; the second covered grass-roots coordination. The session chaired by Mr. Brannon had been organized by Under Secretary Dodd (GS Board) who was unable to be present.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Resource Development, Utilization and Conservation is the title of a 1948-49 lecture series which will bring national authorities to Washington. Organizing the series is a committee composed of Messrs. Josephson (FS), Chairman, Barnes (PISAE), Holt (SCS), V. W. Johnson (BAE) and Wiecking (Sec.).

Under Chairman Waugh (Executive Office of the President), the Social Science Departmental Committee has launched a year's plan for detailed review of course programs with subject matter faculty groups and subcommittees. Meetings held to date were in the fields of transportation and economic theory.

Because of the personnel situation in marketing, this Department has agreed to Research and Marketing Administrator Meyer's request that the full complement of marketing courses be offered in 48-49 whether or not normally scheduled for alternate years.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

On January 22, the department committee under Chairman Moseman completed curricular plans for 1948-49. Seminars in new developments in insecticides, herbicides, and virus diseases of man and animals are planned for the 1948-49 program. Scientists participating in the fall indicated that program seminars were helpful.

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PHYSICAL SCIENCES

An informal luncheon meeting of committee and faculty members was held on April 8, 1948. Chairman Henry Stevens (AIC) presided.

Leading specialists have presented latest developments in the food industry before the seminar, Food Technology - Principles and Practices, under the direction of Dr. A. H. Warth, Chemical Director, Crown Cork and Seal Company.

Guest specialists included: Ferdinand A. Korff, Baltimore City Health Department; W. Earl Graham, Crown Can Co.; Everett E. Mescher, American Preserve Co.; Maurice Siegel, member Strasburger and Siegel; Frank A. Field, Federal Yeast Corp.; Lloyd K. Riggs, Kraft Foods Co.; Henry P. Kraybill, American Meat Institute; Arnold H. Johnson, National Dairy Research Laboratories; John T. Harrison, Tilghman Packing Co.; Simon W. Arenson, Doughnut Corporation of America; H. Walter Kuhl, McCormick and Co.; William C. Epstein, Mennel Milling Co.; Pert H. Wells, Coca-Cola Co.; and D. K. Tressler, Tressler and Associates.

TECHNOLOGY

At a recent meeting of the departmental committee, plans were made to combine four of the divisions. Under Marshall Wright (Sec.), chairman of the Division of Surveying and Mapping, (1) representatives of concerned Federal Agencies, (2) GS faculty, (3) National Photogrammetry Society, and (4) American Congress on Surveying and Mapping are expanding the course program in this area. Three new courses will be offered; courses in photogrammetry and cartography have been revised and expanded to meet current needs.

GS BOARD MEETINGS

The GS General Administration Board at meetings on January 22 and February 27, 1948: 1. heard and approved O. V. Wells' subcommittee report on proposed USDA internship cooperation with land-grant institutions (see elsewhere, this issue); 2. received, amended, and approved I. W. Duggan's subcommittee report on retirement; 3. received and approved W. A. Jump's subcommittee report amending GS regulations on budgetary operations; 4. approved Under Secretary Dodd's proposal to establish three GS fellowships for the Mexican Ministry of Agriculture; and 5. laid plans for re-evaluation of GS responsibilities and operations. The Board next met April 29, 1948.

The NEWSLETTER is issued at intervals for information of faculty, committees and others interested. Address all inquiries to Vera Jensen, Room 1031, Ext. 4419.

Featured in almost every talk and discussion on activities under the Research and Marketing Act is the critical personnel problem - the dire shortage of properly qualified personnel. Not only is personnel short now, but, unless effective corrective steps are taken, the gap between personnel resources and program needs will widen as program expansions scheduled under the Act come along. Thus there is a short-term and a long-term problem.

Under the active leadership of E. A. Meyer, R&M Administrator, USDA has, with the close cooperation of land-grant institutions, been sinking its teeth deep into the personnel aspects of the program brought about by the R&M Act; one of the most significant in agricultural history. Here are some samples developed in large part as a result of joint consideration of the problems at a February meeting of the Land-Grant USDA Committee on Training for the Public Service:

On the immediate problem

in Washington - to help increase and sharpen abilities of the work force here, some 175 employees of USDA bureaus are detailed to a three morning a week six hour GS course on "In-Service Training Course on Marketing". Instructor in the course is Irwin P. Hedges, borrowed from FCA by Research and Marketing and assigned to GS. He is assisted by many USDA specialists.

in the field - land-grant institutions are stepping up current provisions for marketing education. As a result of recommendations by a group of land-grant deans called in in March to consult with USDA on this common problem, President Fenne of Montana State has been employed temporarily by R&M to visit institutions and advise with them on current marketing curricula, etc.

On the long-term problem - of working out what is the most effective curriculum in marketing education, USDA and the land-grant institutions have pooled resources and have named a joint committee to make recommendations.

SCRANTON AND LOYOLA INAUGURATE PRESIDENTS

In December Francis Xavier Talbot, S.J., was inaugurated as President of Loyola College in Baltimore. The Graduate School was represented by Dr. John B. Whitelaw, Chairman of the Department of Education, Johns Hopkins University.

Representing GS at the inauguration, in February, of Joseph Eugene Gallery, S. J., as President of the University of Scranton, was Dr. F. F. Lininger, Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, Pennsylvania State College.